

REMARKS

The pending claims have been cancelled (without prejudice to their being made the subject of a later filed continuation application).

New claims 29-40 have been added, directed to that aspect of the invention relating to using messaging communication for updating and synchronizing non-email databases such as personal information databases. E-mail and text messaging communication use communication protocols (e.g., SMTP, SMS) that are intended for transferring text messages between computers. The inventors conceived of using such messaging communication to update or synchronize non-email databases (e.g., personal information and inventory databases) that would customarily be updated using standard network data transfers (e.g., TCP/IP network connections). For example, an update being sent from a server personal information database to a remote personal information database is first sent to a server messaging application, where a message is formed containing the update; the message is then addressed to a remote messaging application on a remote computer, where the update data is extracted from the message.

The examiner's rejections of claims 1-28 are based on three references: Clark, Cohn, and Grasso. None of the references teaches anything about using messaging communication for updating or synchronizing non-email databases.

For example, Clark teaches updating databases between a host and a remote computer, but relies on standard network data transfers (wireless or wired) to accomplish the data transfer. The transfers include both email and non-email information (see col. 14), but in each case the data is transferred using standard network transfers. There is no suggestion, for example, of forming an e-mail message at the host computer containing update information to be sent to a database at the remote computer, and then extracting that information upon its receipt at the remote computer.

Accordingly, claims 29-40 are in condition for allowance.

Attached is a marked-up version of the changes being made by the current amendment.

Upon reviewing the file, applicant noted that it has not received initialed copies of the enclosed PTO Forms 1449 (5 pages) and PTO Forms 892 (4 pages) listing documents cited in the

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parent application that accompanied this application when filed. Please confirm that these have been considered in this application by returning copies of the Forms with the examiner's initials.

Enclosed is a \$140 check for claim fees and a \$465 check for the Petition for Extension of Time fee. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 1/6/03

David A. Lee, #45888
G. Roger Lee
Reg. No. 28,963

Fish & Richardson P.C.
225 Franklin Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02110-2804
Telephone: (617) 542-5070
Facsimile: (617) 542-8906

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Version with markings to show changes made

In the claims:

Claims 1-28 have been cancelled.